

March 24, 2009

Carlotta Grandstaff, Chairman
Ravalli County Commissioners
215 South Fourth, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840-2853



Subject: Woodside Riprap Levee/Secondary Route 373

Dear Commissioner Grandstaff:

It has been brought to our attention by landowner Mr. Doug Bargfrede that the levee system located immediately upstream of Secondary Route 373 on the Bitterroot River may need some attention. He also indicated that the county has informed him that the state now handles the maintenance of the levee.

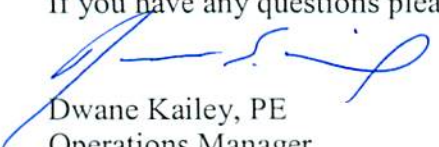
We therefore conducted a field review of the site and have subsequently determined that maintenance of portions of this riprap levee system is integral to the integrity of the Woodside road and bridge over the Bitterroot River. We have attached an exhibit showing the approximate location of the levee in question.

We understand that Ravalli County holds an easement to cross adjacent landowner Mr. Bargfrede's property to access this levee and perform required maintenance to protect the Woodside road and bridge.

The levee maintenance requirement was not specifically addressed in the county state agreement for highway maintenance. We would like to pursue development of an agreement with Ravalli County to provide maintenance for portions of the levee we feel are necessary for protection of the highway. We feel this would be in the best interest of the public in order to maintain a safe and serviceable road and bridge system.

Please advise us if this is something you would consider and if so how you would like to proceed to accomplish this.

If you have any questions please contact me at 444-6414.



Dwane Kailey, PE
Operations Manager
Montana Department of Transportation

copies: Doug Moeller, Missoula District Administrator
Mark Goodman, MDT Hydraulics Engineer
Doug Bargfrede
Paul Dannels

